

CLAIMS

1. A method of rehabilitation comprising:

providing an actuator that includes a movement mechanism capable of applying a force
5 that interacts with a motion of a patient's limb in a volume of at least 30 cm in diameter, in at
least three degrees of freedom of motion of the actuator and capable of preventing substantial
motion in any point in any direction in said volume;

coupling said actuator to a point on a human body;

applying a force vector to said point by said actuator, said force including a rotation.

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2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said force vector includes at least two
rotations directions relative to the force vector.

3. A method according to claim 1, comprising applying a second force to at least a second
15 point on said body, simultaneously with said force.

4. A method of rehabilitation comprising:

providing a first actuator that includes a movement mechanism capable of applying a
force that interacts with a motion of a patient's limb in a volume of at least 30 cm in diameter,
20 in at least three degrees of freedom of motion of the actuator and capable of preventing
substantial motion in any point in any direction in said volume;

coupling said first actuator to a first point on a human body;

providing a second actuator that includes a movement mechanism capable of applying
a force that interacts with a motion of a patient's limb in a volume of at least 30 cm in
25 diameter, in at least three degrees of freedom of motion of the actuator and capable of
preventing substantial motion in any point in any direction in said volume;

coupling said second actuator to a second point on a human body; and

applying different forces to said points using said actuators.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said first actuator applies a rotation.

6. A method according to claim 4, wherein said different points are on a same limb.

7. A method according to claim 4, wherein said different points are on different limbs.

8. A method according to claim 7, comprising exercising the two limbs in concert.

5 9. A method according to claim 7, comprising copying motion from one limb to the other limb.

10. A method of reverse kinematics, comprising:

10 controlling motion of at least one point on an organ using an actuator that includes a movement mechanism capable of applying a force that interacts with a motion of a patient's limb in a volume of at least 30 cm in diameter, in at least three degrees of freedom of motion of the actuator and capable of preventing substantial motion in any point in any direction in said volume;

controlling a position of at least a second point on the organ; and

15 reconstructing by a computer of a value of a bending of at least one joint of said organ from said motion and said position.

11. A rehabilitation device, comprising:

20 an actuator that includes a movement mechanism capable of applying a force that interacts with a motion of a patient's limb in a volume of at least 30 cm in diameter;

a support for a patient; and

a controller adapted to adjust a rehabilitation exercise according to the relative positions of said actuator and at least one of said patient and said support.

25 12. A device according to claim 11, comprising a distance sensor for determining said relative positions.

13. A device according to claim 11, comprising an imaging sensor for determining said relative positions.

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14. A device according to claim 11, wherein said controller relates to the relative placement of said patient and said actuator.

15. A device according to claim 11, wherein said controller assumes the relative positions differ only in two dimensions.

5 16. A device according to claim 11, comprising a pointer which indicates a desired patient placement.

17. A device according to claim 11, wherein said controller is configured to use said actuator to determine said relative placement.

10 18. A device according to claim 11, wherein said controller is configured to use said actuator to indicate a desired relative placement.

19. A device according to claim 11, wherein said controller is configured to adjust said exercise on the fly, during an exercise session and in response to patient movement.

15 20. A rehabilitation device, comprising:
a memory storing therein a correspondence between exercises and payment codes;
a controller adapted to control a rehabilitating exercise and generate a report including a code from said memory corresponding to said exercise.

20 21. A rehabilitation device, comprising:
at least one actuator adapted to support motion of a body part;
at least one sensor associated with the actuator and measuring said motion; and
a controller which analyses said measured motion and generates a measure of quality of
25 motion and which modifies a rehabilitation plan responsive to said quality of motion measure.

22. A device according to claim 21, wherein the controller modifies a selection of future exercises according to a measured quality of motion.

30 23. A device according to claim 21, wherein the controller modifies a selection of parameters for future exercises according to a measured quality of motion.

24. A device according to claim 21, wherein the quality of motion measure used is defined

as the degree of matching to a $2/3$ power law.

25. A method of rehabilitation, comprising:

causing a person to carry out at least one exercise;

5 estimating a mental state of said person from a result of said at least one exercise; and

automatically selecting at least one second exercise according to said estimation.

26. A method according to claim 25, wherein estimating a mental step comprises
10 comparing performance between two exercises, one or which is expected to elicit a higher
compliance.

27. A method according to claim 25, wherein estimating a mental step comprises
comparing performance within an exercise, using the maximum ability of the patient as a base
15 line against which variation can be determined.

28. A method according to claim 25, wherein said estimating is automatic.

29. A method of rehabilitation, comprising:

determining a patient's ability to perform a motor task;

20 determining a patient's ability to perform a non-motor task; and

automatically selecting an exercise or parameters of an exercise for the patient
according to said determinations.

30. A method according to claim 29, wherein said selecting comprises matching an
25 instruction or feedback modality to a perceptive ability.

31. A method according to claim 29, wherein said selecting comprises matching an
instruction or feedback modality to a cognitive ability.

30 32. A method according to claim 29, wherein said selecting comprises an exercise or series
of exercises designed to rehabilitate both of said motor and said non-motor abilities.

33. A method according to claim 29, wherein said exercise rehabilitates visual-motor

coordination.

34. A method of rehabilitation comprising;

moving a motorized actuator having a tip to a spatial position within a volume having a
5 diameter of at least 30 cm; and

instructing a patient to apply force against said tip, wherein said actuator provides a
compliant resistance to said force.

35. A method according to claim 34, comprising selecting the resistance according to the
10 spatial location.